



6. A bat as set forth in claim 1 wherein the overlay member is formed with a substantially equal number of carbon fibers and aramid fibers.

7. A bat as set forth in claim 1 wherein the overlay member is formed with alternating strands of carbon fibers and aramid fibers.

8. A bat as set forth in claim 1 wherein the overlay member is formed with a plurality of strands of carbon fiber alternating with a plurality of strands of aramid fibers.

9. A bat as set forth in claim 1 wherein the overlay member is laminated with a thermosetting resin matrix to the handle portion of the bat.

10. A bat as set forth in claim 9 wherein said thermosetting resin matrix is an epoxy system.

11. A bat as set forth in claim 9 wherein said thermosetting resin matrix is an epoxy-amine system.

12. A method of manufacturing a shock absorbing bat comprising:

slipping a tubular biaxial overlay member comprising a hybrid of carbon fibers and aramid fibers onto a handle portion of a bat;

applying a thermosetting material to said overlay and said handle portion so that said overlay is substantially saturated with said thermosetting material;

wrapping at least a portion of the bat with a suitable wrapping material to compress the

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overlay to the bat handle; and

heating the thermosetting material under appropriate conditions to accomplish at least partial setting of the thermosetting material.

13. A method of manufacturing a shock absorbing bat as set forth in claim 12 wherein said overlay is compressed to said bat handle under a pressure of at least approximately 150 pounds per square inch.

14. A method of manufacturing a shock absorbing bat as set forth in claim 12 wherein said suitable wrapping material comprises cellophane shrink wrap.

15. A method of manufacturing a shock absorbing bat as set forth in claim 14 wherein said overlay is compressed to said bat handle under a pressure of at least approximately 150 pounds per square inch.

16. A bat as set forth in claim 2 wherein said laminated overlay member reduces handle vibration by approximately sixty percent when compared with a bat without any grip.

17. A bat as set forth in claim 2 wherein said overlay is compressed to said bat handle under a pressure of at least approximately 150 pounds per square inch.

18. A bat as set forth in claim 2 wherein said suitable wrapping material comprises cellophane shrink wrap.

FOOTNOTES

19. A bat as set forth in claim 18 wherein said overlay is compressed to said bat handle under a pressure of at least approximately 150 pounds per square inch.

20. A bat as set forth in claim 19 wherein said laminated overlay member reduces handle vibration by approximately sixty percent when compared with a bat without any grip.

21. A bat as set forth in claim 2 wherein the overlay member is formed with a substantially equal number of carbon fibers and aramid fibers.

22. A bat as set forth in claim 2 wherein the overlay member is formed with alternating strands of carbon fibers and aramid fibers.

23. A bat as set forth in claim 2 wherein the overlay member is formed with a plurality of strands of carbon fiber alternating with a plurality of strands of aramid fibers.

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